

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 IO-12 AID-20

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 RSR-01 /147 W

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R 170915 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8680

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

USINT CAIRO

USIA WASHDC

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : OVIP PFOR US GV CB

SUBJECT : NORODOM SIHANOUK COMPLETES VISIT TO CONAKRY

REF: CONAKRY 0738 (NOTAL)

1. PRINCE NORODOM SIHANOUK AND HIS ENTOURAGE DEPARTED CONAKRY THE MORNING OF MAY 16, AFTER A THREE- DAY VISIT WHICH SEEMED TO LOSE MOMENTUM AFTER THE INITIAL SPEECHES REPORTED REFTEL.

2. SIHANOUK HAD A PLACE OF HONOR,1 ALONG WITH VISITING DAHOMEAN PRESIDENT MATHIEU KEREKOU, AT MAY 14 PARADE ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF GUINEAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY. A SPEECH BY GUINEAN PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE, WHICH
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HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR THAT OCCASION, WAS CANCELLED. KEREKOU' S DEPARTURE ON MAY 15 AND BROADCAST OF MESSAGES FROM ABROAD ON THE OCCASION OF THE PARTY ANNIVERSARY CAUSED A BREAK IN THE MEDIA COVERAGE OF SIHANOUK' S VISIT. SIHANOUK' S AIRPORT DEPARTURE INTERVIEW WAS DEVOTED TO PRAISE FOR TOURE AND GUINEA, WITH ONLY BRIEF REFERENCES TO THE CAMBODIA SITUATION. SIHANOUK SAID CAMBODIA IS "90 PERCENT COMPLETELY LIBERATED" FROM THE AMERICANS AND THEIR LACKEYS, WITH THE BATTLE FOR PHNOM PENH NOW IN PROGRESS. UNLIKE PROCEDURE FOR KEREKOU PREVIOUS DAY, SEKOU TOURE MADE NO PUBLIC STATEMENT ON SIHANOUK' S DEPARTURE, ALTHOUGH DELEGATION FROM ONE CONAKRY FEDERATION PRESENTED SYMBOLIC SWORD TO SIHANOUK FOR COURAGE IN LIBERATION STRUGGLE.

3. DIPLOMATIC SOURCES HERE GIVE THE FOLLOWING ITINERARY FOR SIHANOUK AFTER CONAKRY: BAMAKO, BRAZZAVILLE, CAIRO, NOUAKCHOTT, YUGOSLAVIA, ALBANIA, AND A FINAL STOP TO INCLUDE A REST PERIOD IN RUMANIA. SIHANOUK LEFT

CONAKRY ON AN ILYUSHIN-18, RATHER THAN ON THE CHINESE JET ON WHICH HE ARRIVED, REPORTEDLY BECAUSE THE BAMAKO AIRPORT CANNOT HANDLE THE JET.

4. DURING SIHANOUK' S VISIT HERE NO U. S. OFFICIALS HAD ANY CONTACT WITH CAMBODIANS, AND THERE WERE NO INCIDENTS WHICH COULD LEAD TO A MISUNDERSTANDING AS TO U. S. POLICY TOWARD CAMBODIA. TODMAN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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